Proceedings of the Mysore Representative Assembly.

BUDGET SESSION—JUNE 1926.

FIRST DAY—*14th June 1926.*

The fifth meeting of the re-constituted Assembly commenced at 12 noon on Monday the 14th June 1926. Appendix A contains the names of the members present.

The DEWAN and the MEMBERS OF COUNCIL took their seats at 12 noon precisely. Before the proceedings commenced, MR. G. PARAMASIVIAH conveyed to the Dewan-President the warm felicitations of the Assembly on his appointment as Dewan and on the confidence he commanded both of His Highness the Maharaja and of His Highness' subjects as a whole. He also expressed the Assembly's prayer that God be pleased to allow the Dewan a long life, health and prosperity so that the State might also be prosperous during his regime. He concluded by conveying the congratulations of the Assembly to Rajakaryaprasakta Mr. M. N. Krishna Rao on his elevation to the Council of His Highness the Maharaja.

On behalf of the Progressive Party of the Assembly, MR. K. VENKATASAMIYA of Nanjangud also expressed the same sentiments regarding the Dewan and expressed the hope that during his regime, he would add to the rights and privileges of the Assembly. He also congratulated Rajakaryaprasakta Mr. M. N. Krishna Rao on his elevation as Second Member of Council.

MR. MAHOMED IMAM SAB *alias* BABA SAB of Tarikere then congratulated the Dewan and the Second Member of Council, in Urdu, on the recognition of their services to the State.

The proceedings were then opened by the Dewan-President with the following Address:—

Introductory Remarks.

It is my privilege, by command of His Highness the Maharaja, to welcome you to the labours of another session.

It would not be in accord with your feelings or my own if we entered upon our work without paying a tribute to my immediate predecessor, Rajamantra Dhurina Sir Albion Banerji, who laid down the reins of office recently after a distinguished service of ten years in this State.

Many of you, gentlemen, came in close touch with him both as a Member of Government and as Dewan, and you had many opportunities of appreciating his great ability, tact and quickness of decision. It is not necessary, therefore, for me to dilate on those qualities which marked him as a man and an administrator, nor on the able manner in which Sir Albion presided over and conducted the proceedings of this Assembly. You will, I am sure, join with me in wishing him every success and good fortune in the further career which he has chalked out for himself.

To two other changes in the personnel of the Government, you will expect me to make a reference here. After a devoted service of 34 years to the State, Mr. K. R. Srinivasa Iyengar retired last month from the office of First Member of Council, and the members of this House will no doubt remember the useful contribution which, from his experience and knowledge, he was able to make to the discussion of administrative problems here. It is the sincere wish of us all that his retirement from official service may be but the opening of a long period of non-official service to the public in civic, economic and other fields of activity and that he may long be enabled to enjoy his well-earned leisure in peace and happiness.

The other officer of the State who used to be here during recent sessions, but is not to be seen in the same position to-day, is Rajatantra Pravina Dr. Brajendra Nath Seal, the distinguished Vice-Chancellor of our University. Owing to considerations of health, he was obliged, some weeks ago, to relinquish the office of Extra Member of Council, which he had held for the short period of a year and four months. During that period, however, his deep insight into our educational needs and his profound knowledge of allied matters were of the greatest assistance to Government. His enthusiasm for the cause of learning is well-known; and he will hereafter be able to devote his time and energies exclusively to the promotion of that great cause both as Vice-Chancellor and as Educational Adviser. I sincerely hope that the University and the State may long continue to profit by his wide experience and expert counsel.

Before I go further, it is my painful duty to refer to the

death of Mr. C. Srinivasa Rao of Chikmagalur, which occurred in April last. He had been connected with the Assembly ever since its inauguration 44 years ago and was one of its most respected members. His death is a great loss to the public life of the country and we shall long miss his familiar figure in this House. I would also refer, with the deepest regret, to the loss we have sustained, since you last met, through the death of Mr. K. S. Channabasappa of Gundlupet.

An Outline of Policy.

Let me now try to indicate in a few brief words the ideals and policies which it is my ambition to pursue in endeavouring to discharge the responsibilities which His Highness the Maharaja has been pleased to entrust to my care. It is acknowledged on all sides that the policy of the Government of His Highness has always been to devote all its resources and powers to the advancement of the State in all directions—material, moral and, in a broad sense, spiritual; and I would earnestly assure you that those aims and efforts will not suffer diminution at our hands. It is obviously superfluous that I should now traverse the entire ground of our development programme, reciting each item and re-affirming each policy. While we accept all the objects and plans bequeathed to us by previous administrations, and intend to do our best for them in the light of the conditions of our time, let me pause to lay some special stress on one or two points.

The economic question stands first among all our questions; and it will continue to receive our constant and careful attention. To take the simplest, the most obvious and yet the most neglected of matters—the production and use of the necessities of life within the State. Home production, manufacture and use of the necessities of life are the triple root of material prosperity, and the basis of all other forms of prosperity. The first step towards the larger attainment of such prosperity is the improvement of means and methods of agricultural production. To this, the Government will give all possible help. I need not emphasise, since it is patent to us all, the desirability of the development of agricultural co-operation and of technical instruction. But the success of such necessary movements depends less upon State patronage than upon individual initiative and work, not only for one's own benefit, but for the benefit of the country at large.

The Government are fully aware also of the need that exists for increasing facilities for industrial enterprise and for the expansion of trade, both inland and foreign. Much was attempted in these fields in our State, as we all know, by way of study and experiment in the past; and I am anxious that efforts should be renewed in the same direction, on more fruitful lines, if possible. Government will be ready to respond to any well-considered and practical suggestion for the encouragement of local enterprise, either in the field of large-scale manufacture or commerce, or in the field of indigenous arts and crafts.

We have all felt the need for the extension of avenues of employment—particularly for the middle and the poorer classes. This is undoubtedly the most pressing and the most widely felt problem to-day. But there is no royal road to its solution. Greater prosperity, for which all should work, will cause a natural increase of employment. The State will do what it can in this respect in the various works that are in hand or are under consideration. Such works need not necessarily be merely utilitarian. They may also be beautiful, for beauty and order are as necessary to the welfare of the nation as utility.

Then, look at the housing and sanitary conditions of our towns and villages. They can command neither comfort nor good health. Improvement in this respect must depend very largely on more earning capacity, for improvement means expenditure which affects both the Government and the people. This is another reason why special efforts should be made towards augmenting the natural production of the State. Where material increase flows through the life of a country, it carries better conditions over a wider area. I would, therefore, also urge that the development of handicrafts and village industries should be pushed on as vigorously as possible; and towards this end, I would bespeak the earnest thought and co-operation of non-official leaders. The growth of the agricultural and industrial activities of the people is bound to bring in its train not only material additions to individual and national possessions, but also a more wakeful and more vigorous national intelligence, a quicker civic and social consciousness, a finer aspiration and a better standard of living, and a more effective preparation for the higher objects of human existence.

With economic and educational development goes also political development. Indeed, political advancement is, at bottom, a question of public education; and this means, as

all will agree, a process of patient study and careful preparation on the part of both the Government and the people. In this respect, Mysore affords an unrivalled opportunity for developing a form of Government which may serve as a type for study, and perhaps adaptation, by other parts of India. For such a form, we have no perfect model either in history or in contemporary life. By patient work and gradual thought and adjustment, our political system must be developed in the light of Indian tradition, of modern developments in India and elsewhere, and of the peculiar circumstances of Mysore. No problem could be more complicated or more inspiring; and it calls for clear and dispassionate thought with a mind completely divorced from fad and prejudice, and founded upon a serious regard for the realities of our situation and an honest sense of the attendant responsibilities. Further, action is the great teacher of doctrine, and strenuous work to improve the people's lot will bring political as well as economic wisdom.

I would therefore appeal to you that you might spare all the time and thought that you possibly can to the task of promoting public work and popular organisation in your localities. We shall be eagerly looking for instances of non-official initiative and effort in reviving rural industries, in helping joint action in manufacture or trade, in building up co-operative societies and aided schools, and in making the institutions of local self-government more successful. You are aware that the Government have been actively considering some measures for the re-organisation of our system of local self-government. I can assure you that anything calculated to encourage and develop the civic sense of our people and to stimulate municipal enterprise will have the hearty support of Government. Many non-official gentlemen have already rendered noteworthy public service in this field; and we confidently ask for more.

Financial.

It is usual on this occasion to deal with the financial position in three years, namely, the last closed year for which audited accounts are available, the year which is now current and will soon close and that which will open from the first of the next month. I shall follow this practice and make a brief survey of the realised results of 1924-25 and the anticipated results of 1925-26 before presenting the budget programme for the coming year.

Accounts of 1924-25.

The total revenue of the year was Rs. 340 lakhs and the expenditure chargeable to revenue was also about the same amount. Railways, Forest, Income and Miscellaneous Taxes and Stamps did better than was expected and the improvement under the first two of these heads was appreciable as it amounted to as much as Rs. 15 lakhs. Compared with the budget, there was a falling off under Land Revenue, Excise, Assigned Tract Revenue, Mining Revenue and Interest. The decline under Excise was nearly Rs. 3 lakhs and that under each of the other heads, about a lakh or less. The total expenditure was about Rs. 4 lakhs more than the budget anticipation. The increased revenue under the four heads to which I have referred helped to offset the deficiencies under other heads, the increased expenditure over the budget expectation, and the current and arrear losses of Rs. 7·73 lakhs on account of the operation of the Iron Works.

Review of the Year 1925-26.

The budget estimate for the current year counted upon an aggregate revenue of Rs. 340·79 lakhs and provided for a programme of expenditure to be met from revenue, amounting to Rs. 340·05 lakhs, leaving a surplus of Rs. 0·74 lakhs. According to the revised estimate, the total revenue is Rs. 340 lakhs and the total expenditure chargeable to revenue is about the same and on the whole, the position of equilibrium anticipated in the budget will be maintained. There are, however, important departures from the budget for the current year which are explained in detail in the Financial Secretary's Memorandum already placed in your hands.

Forest shows an increase of Rs. 4 lakhs of which about Rs. 3 lakhs is from sandal oil. The demand for sandal oil was very brisk during the year, the quantity sold being the highest on record.

The revenue from Income and Miscellaneous Taxes is better by over Rs. 2 lakhs and this is chiefly the result of realisation of arrears due from the Kolar Gold Mining Companies.

An increase of nearly Rs. 4 lakhs appears under Railways, and this is due to the improvement in traffic receipts on our lines worked by the Madras and Southern Mahratta Railway Company and to the refund of about

three-quarters of a lakh on account of the customs duty which had been collected on materials used on the same lines.

There is a decline of Rs. 2·63 lakhs under Krishnarajasagara Hydro-Electric and Irrigation Works, due to a temporary relinquishment of power by the Kolar Gold Mining Companies.

The budget programme did not anticipate any loss on the operation of the Iron Works but owing to continued fall in prices, this expectation has not been realised. The revised estimate takes into calculation an adjustment, on this account, of about Rs. 8 lakhs, of which, a sum of nearly Rs. 3 lakhs is the loss for the half-year ended December 1925 and the balance of Rs. 5 lakhs represents preliminary expenses and arrear losses which could not, for want of funds, be written off in previous years.

Turning now to the expenditure side, it will be seen that noticeable increases occur under Interest, Civil Works and Agriculture.

The increased expenditure under Interest is the result of arrear claims to interest on State Loans and of larger balances of Savings Bank Deposits and Insurance Funds than had been estimated in the budget.

The increase under Civil Works is about Rs. 2·5 lakhs and this is mainly due to the expenditure on repairing the Madhavamantri Anicut and on the improvements to the Mysore City Water Supply Scheme.

An additional expenditure of nearly Rs. 2 lakhs was necessitated by measures adopted to combat cattle diseases and this explains the excess under Agriculture.

The only noticeable decrease is under Education and it amounts to about Rs. 2·5 lakhs contributed by savings under most of the minor heads, and some lapses on grants are incidental to the nature and scale of operations of this Department.

As usual, the outlay on the Bhadra Irrigation Project is met from the Irrigation Capital Works Reserve, and the expenditure aggregating Rs. 4·3 lakhs on the following items, which are of a non-recurring character, is met from the Special Reserve:—

	Rs.
Expenditure on Madhavamantri Anicut ..	60,000
Purchase of serum and cost of establishment for combating rinderpest	2,05,000
Flood damage works	1,68,000
Total ..	4,33,000

Budget Estimates for 1926-27.

I shall now proceed to explain to you the budget programme for the next year. The estimate of total revenue in that year is placed at Rs. 341 lakhs and that of expenditure at about Rs. 340·5 lakhs, resulting in an anticipated surplus of about half a lakh.

I should like to draw your attention to some features which characterise our sources of revenue. Some of the sources are on the decline, while the annual yield of others is subject to large fluctuations. The revenue from Excise is steadily on the down grade. As pointing to reduced consumption, the decline is, doubtless, a matter for satisfaction, but the reduction is a dislocating factor financially. Following the action taken by the Government of India, the Excise Duty on cotton manufactures wliich is now suspended, has to be remitted, and accordingly, no credit is taken for this item in the next year's estimates. This remission means an annual loss of revenue of nearly Rs. 2 lakhs. The surplus revenues of the Civil and Military Station payable to the State are also showing signs of contraction. The revenue from the sale of sandal oil is subject to wide variations depending upon market conditions. With the completion of the settlement operations, Land Revenue has practically reached its highest level for some years to come, besides being subject to variations due to seasonal vicissitudes.

There are not many revenue estimates for the next year to which I need draw any special attention. The Land Revenue is placed at a couple of lakhs higher than the revised estimate on account of the re-settlements coming into force from the next year. It is not safe to count upon the continuance of the record sale of sandal oil in the current year and this accounts for the decrease under Forest. Having regard to the trend in the last few years, the revenue from Excise is taken at a lakh and a half less than in the current year. The reduction under Income and Miscellaneous Taxes is accounted for by the abolition of the Excise Duty on cotton manufactures. The Kolar Gold Mining Companies are expected to consume more power than they did in the current year and accordingly, the estimate in the next year under the Krishnarajasagara Hydro-Electric and Irrigation Works is better than the revised estimate.

There has been a perceptible improvement in the

operation account of the Bhadravati Iron Works in the second half of the current year, and in view of this, the Board of Management of the Works do not expect any loss on working in the next year. Accordingly, no current loss on account of these works has been provided for in the next year's estimates.

The aggregate expenditure for which provision is made in the budget is Rs. 349 lakhs and of this amount, it is proposed to meet from current revenues nearly Rs. 341 lakhs, leaving the balance of about Rs. 8 lakhs to be met from Reserve Funds.

A progressive administration needs expanding revenues to meet the increasing demands for expenditure, but in view of what I have stated, our revenue position requires close and constant watching. Attempts have, I think, to be made to increase our revenues in order to be able to provide the funds necessary for various improvement measures. At present, our Rupee Debt amounts to Rs. 354·42 lakhs against which we will have set aside by 30th June 1926 a sum of Rs. 116 lakhs towards the Sinking Fund. The net Rupee Debt at present is therefore Rs. 238 lakhs only. We have to replace our short term loans by a conversion loan of long currency and, as the market rate of interest is showing a tendency to go down and long term loans also are coming into favour, we may avail ourselves of the opportunity for conversion very soon. It is possible to spread the present debt over a long period by floating a fresh loan bearing a much lower rate of interest. Even taking interest at 6 per cent (the actual rate will, in all likelihood, be much less) and Sinking Fund at 4 per cent, the yearly contribution required from the general revenues to wipe off this debt in 30 years will not exceed Rs. 18·5 lakhs. Instead of this, we are now setting aside annually a sum of Rs. 42·39 lakhs to meet the charges both for interest and Sinking Fund. Of this sum, it seems possible to divert over Rs. 20 lakhs towards making provision for new Capital Works such as, the High Level Canal about the starting of which every one is agreed, and for some of the nation-building activities which are inadequately provided for at present. By encouraging such activities, we will be putting heart into the people and indirectly aiding the future growth of State revenues.

The 7 per cent loan of 1921-22 amounting to Rs. 195·57 lakhs is repayable in 1931-32 when it is expected a sum of Rs. 29 lakhs will be released from the debt service. I think

it necessary to anticipate the release of the greater portion of this sum by making arrangements for the conversion of the loan in good time or for raising a new long term loan to repay the balance of the old loan.

Considered collectively, the State properties so far created are paying a reasonable return. The loan in question was raised to create new property although that particular property may not be paying so soon. After 8 or 10 years, the property in question may also begin to pay and when that time arrives, the general revenues may not have any debt charges to meet on its account.

You will agree it would not be right to make the present generation share all the burdens leaving to the next generation only the enjoyment of the benefits accruing from these works. We have to view the works as a whole. On this question, which is receiving the earnest consideration of His Highness' Government, your views and advice will be very welcome.

I may assure you that His Highness' Government are most anxious to find funds from some source or other to help the people in their economic activities and social betterment. Pending arrangements for releasing some of the funds at present devoted to debt charges, we have decided, as remarked already, to make a sum of Rs. 8 lakhs available at once for this purpose and to meet the same for the present from Reserve Funds. The following are the principal measures for which additional grants are included in the next year's budget:—

1. A grant of Rs. 1,20,000 is made for meeting part of the subvention promised to the Bangalore City Municipality for the improvement of its Water Works.

2. An allotment of Rs. 3,00,000 is included for carrying out the second instalment of improvements to the Water Works of the Mysore City.

3. For the additional requirements of the Education Department, a lump sum provision of Rs. 50,000 is made.

4. The present scale of pay of Sub-Assistant Surgeons has for a long time been represented to be inadequate and a resolution was also moved and carried some time back in the Legislative Council recommending an increase of pay to these officials. A provision of Rs. 16,000 is made for giving effect to this resolution.

5. The present scale of pay of the several units of the Army is low and it has been found difficult to attract recruits of the proper type. Some improvement of the scale

is a pressing measure and a provision of Rs. 50,000 for the Army and a similar amount for the Palace Military are accordingly included in the budget.

6. A proposal is under consideration for installing a plant for creosoting timber sleepers under the supervision of the Forest Department by making use of the tar to be supplied by the Bhadravati Iron Works. A sum of Rs. 85,000 is included in the budget for this purpose.

7. A provision of Rs. 1,30,000 is made for improving the sanitary condition of towns, other than Mysore and Bangalore, for which there is a crying need.

8. Atttention to sanitary improvements of the villages is another ugent need and a provision of Rs. 1,30,000 is accordingly made under Rural Reconstruction.

9. Measures of economic development have not been actively pursued for some time past ; a provision of Rs. 1,00,000 is made for making a beginning towards the resumption of these activities.

10. An allotment of Rs. 1,20,000 is made for Malnad Improvements, and the usual provision for the opening new dispensaries in the Medical and Veterinary Departments is included in this provision.

Expenditure met from Reserves.

The outlay on the Bhadra Project is met from the Irrigation Capital Reserve. The combined grant for the Water Works of the Bangalore and Mysore City Municipalities amounts to Rs. 4·25 lakhs and in view of this fact and also of the non-recurring character of this charge, it is proposed to provide for it from the Special Reserve to the extent permitted by the balance of this reserve. The amount at credit of the Famine Insurance Fund will be Rs. 63 lakhs at the beginning of next year and it is proposed to utilise a part of the interest realised on the investments held on behalf of this fund for original irrigation works and the restoration of minor tanks as the expenditure on these works will, in effect, be a form of insurance against famine. The total expenditure to be met from these three reserves amounts to about Rs. 8 lakhs.

Capital Works.

The programme of Capital Works for next year provides for a grant of nearly Rs. 50 lakhs. The bulk of this

provision is for the Seventh Installation Works of the Electrical Department which are in full swing. A sum of Rs. 10·5 lakhs is provided for the Krishnarajasagara Dam and a similar amount for the open line requirements of Railways worked by Government and by the Madras and Southern Mahratta Railway Company.

Administrative Record.

I will now refer to some of the salient features in regard to the administration since you last met in session.

Revenue Department.

The seasonal conditions during the year were generally favourable all over the State except in parts of the Tumkur and Kolar Districts. Relief measures were continued in these tracts and a sum of Rs. 74,200 was spent for takkavi loans, gratuitous relief and towards tank maintenance and other improvement works.

The whole question of suspension and remission of wet assessment on tank irrigated lands was carefully examined by Government, and revised rules regulating the grant of remissions were issued in October 1925. In accordance with these rules, remissions to the extent of Rs. 99,462 were sanctioned during the year.

A little over Rs. 90,000 was also sanctioned for restoration work in the districts affected by the floods of 1924-25. I should not omit to mention the commendable work done by the Central Flood Relief Committee in this connection. The special thanks of Government are due to the non-official members of the Committee who so willingly co-operated with Government in bringing prompt relief to the sufferers. The Committee has finished its labours and the question of how best to utilise the unspent balance of Rs. 55,000 at the disposal of the Committee is under consideration.

Agricultural Department.

The Coffee Cess Bill having been passed into law, rules for the levy, collection and the administration of the cess were issued. Work on the Coffee Experimental Station at Balehonnur is making satisfactory progress.

I have already referred to the special grant sanctioned for the purchase of serum for inoculating cattle against

rinderpest which broke out in a severe form in several parts of the State during the year. Government have under contemplation the question of manufacturing the serum locally.

Water-supply to Cities and Towns.

Schemes for the improvement of the Bangalore, Mysore and Shimoga water-supply were sanctioned during the year. A Committee with Sir M. Visvesvaraya as Chairman, has been constituted to investigate thoroughly the question of Bangalore water-supply and to suggest measures for its permanent improvement. Government have also kept in view the question of improving the water-supply in other important towns in the State. During the year, schemes for the supply of water to Kalasa, Mudgere and Chitaldrug were sanctioned, and similar projects for Dodballapur, Tarikere, Yedatore, Whitefield and Malvalli are receiving attention.

Education.

The budget grant for the Education Department was Rs. 48·30 lakhs, of which, a sum of Rs. 8·66 lakhs represents the allotment from local cess and contributions from local bodies. In order to meet the growing demand for High School education, two High Schools were opened at Nanjangud and Tirthahalli, besides additional sections in several of the existing High Schools. Some more High Schools will be needed, but the work of expansion has necessarily to be adjusted to the funds available. The S.S.L.C. syllabus was completely revised and introduced into all the High Schools. Provision for the teaching of vocational courses and commercial subjects was also made in several of the High Schools. The Mysore District Board has agreed to the levy of education cess during the year and including this district, six out of the eight districts are now levying the cess. The total amounts sanctioned from cess funds from the beginning till now cover an annual recurring expenditure of Rs. 2·60 lakhs, and with this sum, it has been possible to convert 52 Incomplete Middle Schools into Middle Schools of the new type, 72 Primary Schools into Incomplete Middle Schools, to open 156 Primary Schools and convert 763 aided schools into Government institutions. The Adi Karnataka Boarding Home at Bangalore was expanded so as to provide for 80 students at an additional cost of Rs. 9,000.

Mysore University.

The problems connected with University education in India have entered on a new phase, and Mysore has shared in the general movement. These problems may be summed up under two main heads, those relating to constitutional type, and those relating to the organisation of faculties and courses of study. Under the first, the movement has been generally towards the federal teaching type with constituent or incorporated colleges in one or more University centres, and under the second, towards original developments which adapt the University courses and faculties to the resources and capabilities of the country and the people.

The University of Mysore has been steadily following this twofold path ever since its inception. Recently, the University has added a Medical Faculty, and a Medical College with a Degree as well as a Diploma Examination, a department of teaching in the University College of Arts at Mysore, a department of Electrical Engineering in the University College of Engineering at Bangalore, and certain important and much needed extensions of the science installations in the University College of Science at Bangalore. Under humanistic studies, the transfer of the Archæological Department to this University has helped to link up archæological and epigraphic studies with the courses of history, and that to give a truly regional bent to our historical studies. Besides, scholars have been sent abroad, in view of the urgent need for new courses for Applied Science and Technology in one direction and Indology and Culture History in another. New Mathematical and Statistical courses have been started in connection with the departments of Mathematics and Experimental Psychology, which will place their studies on a concrete realistic footing.

I will not go futher into these technical matters, but so much is necessary to draw public attention to the kind of pioneer work which Mysore has recently attempted in the field of University education. A great deal of re-oganisation work has been already accomplished. And this House will be interested in learning that, with a sound economy in administration, it has been possible to finance all these new developments, both extensive and intensive in character, with practically the same amount of State grant as was enjoyed by the University some five years ago, *viz.*, seven lakhs of rupees, more or less.

All these developments have been now brought to a

head in the scheme of University Re-organisation which has been passed by the Senate after prolonged and mature deliberation, and placed before the Government. The two fundamental points in that scheme are the institution of Intermediate Colleges and Intermediate Courses in place of the existing Entrance Section, and the opening out of various technological Diploma Courses for imparting a practical scientific training in various industrial and agricultural pursuits for which facilities and resources exist in the State.

The Entrance Course marks no definite stage in the educational curriculum. The students who go through the course of nine months and drop off do not advance much beyond the secondary stage ; even those who pass are not recognised for purposes of admission to professional courses or general graduate courses outside the State.

The Intermediate Courses, as planned by the University, will postpone the dropping off of students by a year and provide alternative groups to about 2,000 to 2,500 students, suited to their aptitudes and interests. This, it is expected, will open to our young men a wider range of training in technological and professional colleges as well as in the form of post-intermediate diploma courses, and thus help ultimately to establish a variety of agricultural and industrial occupations in the country. Such are the aims of the extended and diversified Intermediate Course approved by the Senate and placed before the Government. It is calculated to retrieve University Education from its present parlous state, and will go far to relieve the congestion in the channels of pure letters and pure science which swells the ranks of the unemployed with resulting social and economic disorder.

These Diploma Courses are contemplated for several branches of Applied Science and Technology, including Chemical and Engineering Technology, Applied Chemistry and Agriculture. They will extend over a year or 18 months after the completion of the Preparatory Intermediate Course ; lectures and laboratory work will be provided in the University Colleges of Science and Engineering, and practical training in the workshops, factories and farms.

The Senate is of the opinion that the entire expenditure on the Re-organisation Scheme as passed by them can be spread over a number of years. The full scheme as given will come into operation in the fifth year after the starting of the Intermediate Colleges, and the proposal of the Senate is to open the Junior Intermediate Classes in July 1927. Government have decided to accept this recommendation of

the Senate. But it will be possible to give effect to the scheme in successive parts and in selected branches of study, if desired, and also to graduate its working according to the resources that may be available to the State.

Krishnarajasagara.

Coming to Capital Works, I have to state that the work of raising the Krishnarajasagara Dam to its full contemplated level of 130 feet is progressing satisfactorily. The supplies available at the present storage level of 106 feet are sufficient for irrigating a little over 60,000 acres as against a total of 120,000 acres when the storage is increased to 124 feet. The question of developing irrigation in the Cauvery Valley is receiving attention, and detailed plans and estimates for the excavation of the High Level Canal at an estimated cost of Rs. 250 lakhs are under examination.

Railways.

I have already referred to the improvement in the revenue earnings of the Railways. Attempts by the Department to reduce the working expenses have been successful, so that the ratio of working expenses to gross receipts during the year will be about 67·5, which compares very favourably with the ratio in the previous three years. The Nanjangud-Chamrajnagar Railway construction which was started during the year is nearing completion, and conditions being favourable, the line should be open for traffic by the end of July next. Government have decided to follow the policy adopted by the Government of India, on the recommendation of the Ackworth Committee, in regard to the financing of District Board Railways, and have sanctioned the Kadur-Chikmagalur Railway on the understanding that Government will provide the funds for the construction of the line, and the District Board will guarantee the Government against losses in working. The construction of this line will be commenced as soon as possible. The resumption of work on the Shimoga-Arasalu line, which involves the construction of a new bridge over the Tunga river, is also under contemplation. The construction of other lines, for which there is equally strong demand, can only be considered when our financial resources permit. As a result of the reduction in the working expenses, it may be possible to give some relief to third class passengers. Government are looking

into the matter, and hope shortly to pass orders reducing the third class fares.

Irrigation.

Among the larger irrigation works under progress, the head works and the first 16½ miles of the Right Bank Channel of the Bhadra Anicut have been completed, and His Highness the Maharaja was graciously pleased to open the anicut on the 12th instant. About 4,000 acres of land will be brought immediately under irrigation. The Sowlanga tank work has been completed and the excavation of the High Level Canal is in progress, 3 miles of the channel having been completed and water allowed for irrigation. Repairs to the bridge across the Tungabhadra at Harihar, which was damaged during the floods in 1924-25, are nearing completion and will be open to traffic shortly. With a view to ensure more efficient and quicker methods of restoration of tanks, a Tank Survey Division has been recently constituted to collect necessary data and prepare a suitable programme of restoration and improvement work. Among other important original works, I may mention the construction of a bridge across the Cauvery and the Kabbini near T.-Narsipur and the construction of a reservoir across the Kumudvati near Anjanapur. Both these projects have been investigated, and Government propose to undertake them as soon as possible.

Electrical Department.

In regard to the activities of the Electrical Department, I may mention that during the first 10 months of the year, there were 11 additions to power installations, and 600 to lighting installations, bringing the total number of these installations up to date to 299 and 8,904 respectively. The work connected with the Seventh Installation which is expected to generate additional energy to the extent of 14,000 H.P. is in full swing. Orders for almost all the machinery required have been placed through the Stores Purchase Committee, and the construction of buildings is well in progress. The Bangalore Transmission Lines have been thoroughly remodelled and service rendered more efficient. The question of extending power supplies to important towns along the main transmission system such as, Bowringpet, Yelahanka, Kankanhalli, etc., is receiving attention, as also the question of making electric power available at cheap rates to raiyats willing to instal pumping plants on the

banks of the Arkavati for irrigation purposes. The rate for power charged to small industrial concerns has been reduced from two annas to one and three-fourth annas for consumption up to and including 20 H.P. The Government have lately ordered that no metre hire be levied where the power consumed is 6 points or less per month. These reductions will, it is hoped, secure to the small consumers the much-needed relief they have been praying for.

Bhadravati Iron Works.

In the early part of the year 1925-26, the output of pig iron and by-products was affected by monsoon conditions and the prices underwent a rapid decline. Towards October, the losses rose to serious proportions and the situation called for special measures. The loss on operation during the half-year ended 31st December 1925 amounted to Rs. 1,88,827, and that due to the fall in the value of the stock on account of rapid decline in prices to Rs. 1,04,386 more making a total loss of Rs. 2,93,213 for the half-year. During the current half-year, the working has improved and it is not expected that there will be any appreciable loss. Since October last, drastic economies have been effected in all sections and special steps taken to improve the output. The cost of collection of raw materials was considerably reduced and the output of the furnace raised to its full estimated capacity. The various measures of improvement and cost reduction took some time to yield the full results. For a period of six months from November 1925 to April 1926, the entire staff of the works agreed to forego a share of their emoluments ranging from 6¼ to 10 per cent. The spirit of self-sacrifice displayed by them deserves special recognition.

During the next year, *i.e.*, 1926-27, the three subsidiary plants, the Pipe Foundry, the Alcohol Refining Plant and the Tar Distillation Plant are expected to be in full operation and to yield additional revenue. The operations of the main plant will probably be maintained at its present level and it is not likely there will be any loss even if the present low market rates continue. Almost the entire current output was sold during the first half-year and a similar result is anticipated during the second half-year.

The Board of Management have recently issued a statement which gives a clear account of the present situation. I visited Bhadravati recently and found that steady

progress is being made in every direction. The situation of the iron industry all the world over has been very unsatisfactory of late and our works are in no worse position than similar concerns elsewhere. The following extract from a special review of the Iron and Steel Trades in Great Britain in 1925 published by Messrs. Wm. Jacks & Co. of London will probably be of special value in this connection:—

"By long years of a depression unprecedented in modern industrial history, the vitality of the British Iron and Steel trade has been reduced to a low ebb. The liquid assets and cash reserves of even the most powerful of the great iron and steel combines have been exhausted, not only have no dividends been earned but heavy losses have been incurred; yet in spite of all the sacrifices, production has still further declined during the past year. Such plant as has been operated has only been kept going at a loss. The plight of the iron and steel industry is now recognised as a matter for grave national concern."

While such is the experience in the most advanced industrial country in the world, there is every reason to be satisfied with the progress made in the working of this new undertaking during the difficult times through which it is passing. The full benefit of this progress will be visible when the world conditions improve and there is a substantial recovery in the iron and steel trades.

Administrative Efficiency.

Gentlemen, this is necessarily a hurried review of the position of the administration in the principal departments. I realise, as well as anybody, that the machinery of administration needs some repairs and readjustments here and there. Scriptory work must be cut down, and real constructive work must be increased in all public offices. I have every assurance that the officers of the Government will co-operate whole-heartedly in reducing unnecessary correspondence and in getting things done by prompt personal attention. It is generally complained that we Indians have yet to earn a name for business-like habits and expeditious disposal of papers. If the officers of the several departments, in all the various grades, will remember this and put forward greater diligence in attending to their routine work, not only will much be gained thereby for our general reputation, as well as for the advantage of the public, but much relief will also be afforded to the Government so that they could apply themselves with a freer mind to the larger questions confronting them.

Some Large Questions.

How these questions are growing both in number and complexity must indeed be patent to every one. With each year, our responsibilities have been widening; and not the least important of them are our moral responsibilities as a modern and progressive Indian State. A large and eager world is watching our work here, looking for encouragement or warning, according as we do well or ill. Far wider interests than those of Mysore are involved in the sort of reputation that we succeed in winning here. We have to exert ourselves to the utmost in every direction in order to maintain the good name of our State, to raise its prestige abroad, and to add to its renown as a friend of all progressive movements. Before long, the question of devising a mode of fitting in Mysore among the Indian States in the general scheme of Indian government, will have to be considered; and as connected with it, there is the question of securing satisfactory arrangements for the fair treatment of Mysore in her external concerns. This is not the occasion for me to go into the details of these questions, and I mention them here only to indicate the magnitude of the task that lies before us.

Conclusion.

In conclusion, I cannot but address to you a few words more personal in subject and feeling.

I am grateful to His Highness for the opportunity now afforded me of rendering wider service to him and to his people. I regard the office of Dewan less as an appointment than as a great mission of patriotic service. To His Highness, I am bound by gratitude and life-long affection. His approval of such service as I may render the State is of paramount worth to me, and it can be secured only by patient labour for the prosperity and the happiness of the people of Mysore. I assure you, gentlemen, that the labour shall not be lacking on my part, nor the sympathy that alone can give it the right direction; and I pray also for the clear and unvarying vision through which, despite human weakness and the intractability of human affairs, the ideal has power to dominate the smallest deeds of men. One might well be daunted by a sense of the responsibilities of this office and of one's own limitations. But this is no individual effort. Without your sympathy and support, gentlemen, individual effort would be futile, but working

together, we cannot fail. I have perfect confidence that we shall thus work together. This confidence is based partly upon the obviously sincere and earnest expressions of good wishes which I have received from representatives of all classes among you, but its essential foundation is my knowledge of your patriotism and of my own.

We deliberate amidst many difficulties, but these merely accentuate the greatness of our opportunity. We have a fortunate State, fortunate in the nobility and wisdom of its Ruler, in the character and homogeniety of its people, in its vast mineral and other resources, almost untouched, but ours to develop. Few lands are so ready to respond to effort, if the effort be wise and strong and steady and united.

Gentlemen, my thoughts look forward, not without anxiety, yet with hope and resolution, to the day when I shall lay down this office and render my account. We stand or fall together, you and I. We are one in duty and in aim. I trust we shall also be one in judgment. I find it impossible even in thought to make a separation between us, except for one tremendous difference. For a few brief years, the Dewan plans and labours, and then his place knows him no more; he passes and his work is judged. Your office as representatives of the people is for ever. Individuals may come and go, but the work of this Assembly will continue steadily through time beyond our foresight. In these its earliest years, it is you, individually and collectively, who are creating its traditions. How important is it, then, to maintain an absolute purity and nobility of policy and word! And in State affairs, purity and nobility simply mean the disinterestedness of persons and party, creating unity and power. Let us by mutual friendliness and good understanding see that the ancient vision of a united national life is restored in its fulness. I feel that any one amongst us, including myself, who sought to use this Assembly for purposes narrower than the universal service of the State would thus dishonour his office. If we, as a State, are to achieve real progress and to win the regard and the approbation of the outside world, it is necessary that we should always look at things from a national standpoint and deal with the problems that face us, and some that distress us to-day, on lines of co-operation, co-partnership and mutual good-will.

The Kannada translation of the Address was read by Mr. K. H. Ramiah, B.A., BAR.-AT-LAW, Registrar of Co-operative Societies.

Before the next item on the Agenda was taken up, MR. B. NARASINGA RAO begged leave to move the following resolution:—

"This Assembly desires to place on record its appreciation of the services rendered by Mr. Srinivasa Rao and Mr. K. S. Channabasappa and expresses its deep regret at the lamented death of those two gentlemen and conveys its sorrow to the members of the two bereaved families."

He added that Mr. C. Srinivasa Rao, Coffee Planter, Chikmagalur, was a member of the Assembly for the last 45 years and also served on the Committee appointed to submit recommendations in connection with the Constitutional Developments in Mysore. Mr. Kabbahalli Channabasappa of Gundlupet was also a member of the Assembly and met with a sudden death. He devoted most of his wealth for the benefit of the public and spent as much as Rs. 50,000 for the Veerasaiva Hostel at Mysore and also gave endowments to the Mysore University. There was still so much that he wanted to do, and the State sustained a severe loss by his sudden demise.

MR. M. S. NARASINGA RAO supported the resolution, which was unanimously adopted, the whole House remaining standing.

The next item on the Agenda was replies to interpellations, but as these had just been received from the Press, the Dewan-President informed the House that they would be placed in the hands of the members immediately and would be taken up after lunch.

Government Business was then taken up, and the first item to be considered was the following statement of the main principles of the Bill to Amend the Mysore Weights and Measures Regulation, 1902, copies of which had been duly circulated to the members:—

Statement of the Main Principles of the Bill to Amend the Mysore Weights and Measures Regulation, 1902.

Under the existing Regulation and the Rules thereunder, the Government may only prescribe the standard of weights and measures which should be adopted in any area and any person who uses any weight or measure *not in accordance with the standard* will be deemed to have used a false weight or measure which is an offence punishable under the Penal Code. The existing Regulation does not,